



State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

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Division of Oil, Gas & Mining


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August 20, 2004

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist 

SUBJECT: Site Inspection, UMETCO, Deremo/Peterson Mine, M/037/025, San Juan County, Utah

Date of Inspection: July 1, 2004
Time of Inspection: About 10:30 to 11:00 a.m.
Conditions: Mostly clear, 80's
Participants: Rahe Junge and Frank Barnett, UMETCO; Paul Baker, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection:

We were in the area primarily to visit the Wilson/Silverbell Mine and decided to stop at this one and see how vegetation was progressing.

Observations:

Except for the north-facing slope, the operator has had difficulty establishing vegetation at this site. There is good perennial cover on the north slope (Photo 1), but most vegetation on the rest of the site is weeds (Photos 2 and 3).

Conclusions and Recommendations:

The area has been in a drought for several years, but there was fairly good precipitation this past spring and early summer. I am unsure why last fall's seeding would not have resulted in better vegetation.

I suggest that the operator try one more time to seed this site. This time, particular efforts should be made to obtain good quality seed and to seed as soon as possible after surface preparation. The Division should be notified as far in advance as possible of the date when seeding will be done.

PBB:jb

cc: Rahe Junge, Operator

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ATTACHMENT

Photographs

M/037/025, Deremo/Peterson, UMETCO

Inspection Dated: July 1, 2004; Report Dated: August 20, 2004



Photo 1. North side of the waste pile. This is atypical of the site.

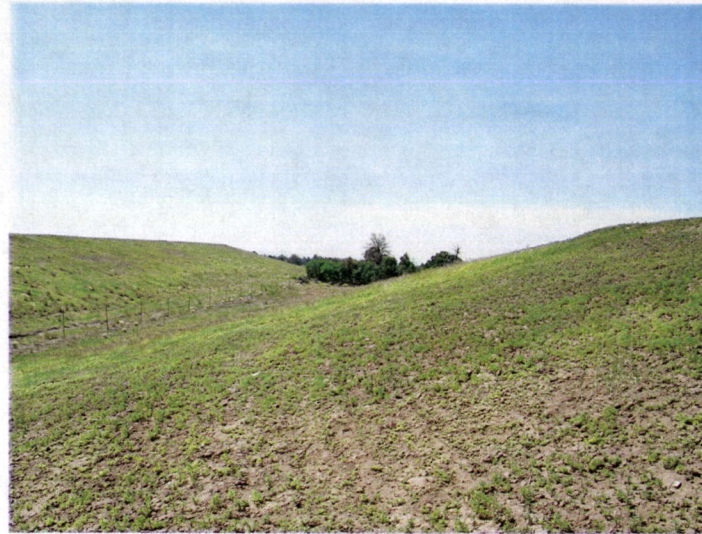


Photo 2. The east side of the waste pile. Nearly all of the plants shown in this photo are weeds, and most of the pile looks like this.



Photo 3. The top of the pile.